

MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN PROVIDENCE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

2PM THURSDAY DECEMBER 8, 2005 40 FOUNTAIN ST.

Present were Robert Gagliardi, Mike Corso, Richard Lappin, Chris Placco, Maria Ruggieri, John Macliver, Dan Baudouin, Frank Zammarelli, Frank LaTorre and Will Gates from the landscape architectural firm of Gates, Leighton and Associates, Inc.

1. Materials for sidewalks for the District

Most of the meeting was taken with Will Gates giving an in-depth, very informative presentation about the types of materials that can be used for construction of sidewalks for the District, with questions and answers from the Committee. He discussed the pluses and minuses of brick, various types of stone and asphalt. He then discussed concrete as a material that is used successfully in many cities. He went through a variety of types of concrete. Stamped concrete is aesthetically pleasing but can be difficult to match when repair is needed. He said that concrete does not have to look “boring and monolithic.” In Will’s words, “creative applications can be done such that the concrete sidewalks contribute to the unique urban quality of a contemporary community.” He mentioned things he thought would be cost effective and durable but still give a distinctive quality to the concrete downtown, distinguishing it from other parts of the city. This included texturing, brushing, setting up or coloring the joints in a

unique way and other such idea. The committee asked Will to do more research on concrete and come back to the January 10 meeting of the Operations Committee so these options can be discussed. John Nickelson, Thom Dellar and Doug Still from the City of Providence will be invited as will Bob Smith from the State DOT.

2. Deployment of Block-by-Block's Clean and Safety Teams

There was limited discussion, including the participation of Frank Zammarelli, Operations Manager from Block-by-Block, of how there could be some adjustments to the balance of labor monies spent on the Clean and Safety Teams. The possibility was discussed that the Clean Team members could work later into the night and that the Safety Team needs to maximize visibility from 4-6PM when people are leaving their worksites and again from 10-11PM when many people are leaving theaters, the Civic Center, etc. Bob Gagliardi and the rest of the committee agreed this topic deserved more time than was able to be given now. It will put on the January 10, 2006 Operations Committee agenda.

3. Miscellaneous Updates

Bob Gagliardi reported on the positive meeting that occurred between various DID Board members, Dan Baudouin, Frank LaTorre and Council President John Lombardi on December 1. The Council President expressed his support for the DID and said if there was any

way he could help he would be glad to do so. He suggested us meeting with Councilors Young and Hassett as well, so collectively they could help on matters from getting funding for new trash receptacles to getting new street lighting in the dark spots of the District...The Sidewalk Repair committee is meeting regularly to discuss how to best obtain and spend monies available from a variety of sources for sidewalk repair in the downtown....Thomas Brendlar is the new Executive Director of Groundworks Providence. The DID will be working with him as he plans on doing more flower planting in the District next season. Thomas is doing a major revamping of the system Groundworks now has in place to get the funding for the acquisition and maintenance of flowers in planters, adopt-a-spots and in other public planting areas.

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4. Request by the PWCVB to have their Night and Day logo appear on DID uniforms

The Providence Warwick Convention and Visitor Bureau has requested they be allowed to put their Night and Day logo patch on the sleeves of the DID Clean and Safety Team members' uniforms. There was discussion as to whether the PWCVB does enough for and with the DID to allow this. It was decided that because of the help they have already given us on projects and the many other joint projects that are going to be coming along, it was worthwhile to give them permission to do this. They have excellent resources and have stated they consider us one of their key selling tools. They want to work with us to achieve our mutual goals. There was a vote that their request should be recommended to the full DID Board for passage at the next Board meeting on December 15, 2005.

The next meeting of the Operations Committee will be at 2PM on January 10, 2006 at 40 Fountain St.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54PM.